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Kinmount Fair cancelled in 150th year

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

With 14 weeks to go until its 150th anniversary, the 2020 Kinmount Fair has been cancelled.

The Kinmount Fair Board announced the decision on May 25. The 150th fair was to be held Labour Day weekend, Sept. 4 to Sept. 6.

"With the current public health restrictions in place it is not possible to plan and make preparations as we normally would for the variety of shows at the fair," reads a message from the fair board posted on the morning of May 25 to their website and social media page. "Added to that issue is the difficulty to manage social distancing for an event the size of the fair."

The three-day fair typically includes agriculture and equestrian shows, live entertainment, a midway, demolition derby and historical exhibitions and is attended by thousands of people, many who travel to the area to attend.

"The most important thing now is the health and safety of everyone who makes Kinmount Fair what it is – our workers, volunteers, vendors and attendees – so we believe that this is the best decision," reads the fair board's message.

see FAIR BOARD page 2



A long haul

Long-distance cyclist Arie Hoogerbrugge pedals up a small uphill, as he leaves Kinmount on County Road 121 on route to Minden's Russ Duhaime on Friday afternoon on May 22. Duhaime allowed Hoogerbrugge to camp and stay the night at his property. Hoogerbrugge, who had to stay at his aunt's in Kingston for a couple of months because of COVID-19 restrictions, has completed a little more than 5,000 kilometres of a 55,000 kilometre journey, which started this past winter from St. John's, Newfoundland and has taken him throughout the Maritimes and Quebec. See more on page 8. /DARREN LUM Staff

Algonquin Highlands eyes COVID-19 recovery

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Algonquin Highlands council discussed steps for recovery from the COVID-19 crisis,

as well as the impact of the pandemic on the township's finances, during a May 21 meeting.

That meeting, the first regular Algonquin Highlands council meeting that has been held since the crisis struck in mid-March, was held with councillors participating remotely

via online conferencing platform Zoom and broadcast on YouTube.

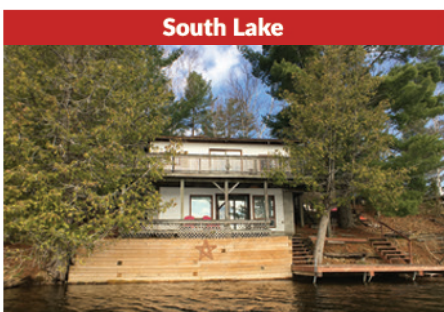
Councillors accepted a report on a health and safety planning and recovery plan from fire chief Johnathan Wilker, who is the township's community emergency management

see COVID-19 page 2

MELANIE HEVESI

Melanie Hevesi
Broker

cell 705.854.1000
info@melaniehevesi.com
www.melaniehevesi.com



South Lake

1026 Capricorn Court - \$335,000

Looking to break into the cottage market this year? This seasonal cottage on South Lake has 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths and sits on a solid block foundation offering you a walkout basement. The main level has 3 bedrooms, half bath, and open concept living/dining area with sliding doors to the wrap around deck. The walkout level features a recreation room, 3 pc bathroom, laundry and 2 bonus storage rooms.



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Above, the iconic Scrambler ride gave kids and adults alike a thrill at the Kinmount Fair last year. /SUE TIFFIN Staff



Right, The Kinmount Fair was filled with people enjoying the festivities in this photo dated in the 1960s. Thousands of people generally visit the Labour Day weekend fair. /Submitted by Guy Scott

Fair board plans for 2021 event

from page 1

“Tough call, but the right one,” said Craig Schroter of Lindsay on the Fair’s Facebook page. “In 51 years, I had only missed the fair in 1985. This will be the second miss. See you all in 2021!”

Campers who have prepaid for the 2020 Kinmount Fair have two options, according to a message on the Kinmount Fair site. Campers may request a refund of their prepayment, or they may move their prepayment forward to the 2021 fair. The trailer park where camping takes place can be reached at trailerpark@kinmountfair.net.

According to the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies Ontario Fairs’ web site, Ontario hosts more than 214 yearly fairs. A listing of fairs in Ontario from May through October shows most have been cancelled or postponed until next year, while some, such as the Hanover Fair and Hymers Fall Fair in Kakabeka Falls, are being held virtually, organizing challenges like a fair exhibit online to showcase photos of hobbies or crafts.

In its long history, the Kinmount Fair has faced setbacks before – during the Great Depression in the 1930s, the fair remained active but finding prize money was challenging and one year the secretary was gifted with a quilt instead of a

cash honorarium, according to a 2009 issue of the *Kinmount Gazette*. Though this year’s cancellation was heartbreaking for organizers and annual fairgoers, the plan for a 2021 fair is in the works.

“Please be assured that we will be back in 2021 for our 150th anniversary celebrations,” said the Kinmount Fair board directors’ message. “In the coming months we are going to work on planning for a 2021 Kinmount Fair where we can all celebrate our favourite fall fair together safely. See you in 2021.”

The 150th Kinmount Fair is scheduled to take place Sept. 3, 4 and 5, 2021.

COVID-19 costs \$70K so far

from page 1

co-ordinator, and chief administrative officer Angie Bird.

“Recovery is the phase in which the township implements actions and activities to return the township and the community to normal, or near normal daily operations,” the report reads. “The recovery phase can occur simultaneously with the response phase, and it can be difficult to precisely define where one phase begins and where the other ends. Recovery includes both short and long-term effects, including the comprehensive rehabilitation of the community. As such, recovery

actions are likely to last for weeks, months, and even years.”

The plan will entail community recovery, as well as economic development and financial recovery, and corporate recovery, the latter dealing with the township’s operations and possible modifications.

“The township will consider the ability to alter the way we work and operate, to determine how and who may return to the physical workplace,” the report reads. “The township will take an excess of care in repopulating office and public environments.”

Mayor Carol Moffatt said council would reconvene its in-person meetings in accordance with guidelines provided by the provincial government. “So we will continue to meet in this manner until such time as it’s deemed appropriate for us to meet back again in person,” Moffatt said.

Councillors also received a report from township treasurer Jean Hughes regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the township’s finances. “We will face considerable revenue losses, particularly within the parks and recreation and trails department, due to COVID,” Hughes said. Her report included a chart that shows that as of the end of April, the financial loss associated with the virus to be just less than \$70,000, from a combination of lost revenues, overtime hours in some departments, equipment and supplies, etc. That figure is equivalent to 1.3 per cent of the township’s tax levy.

“We will likely see further losses over the summer,” Hughes said, the chart showing a projection that the figure would exceed \$100,000 by the end of July. “We will have to consider options to fund a potential budget deficit.”

“I believe staff are going to come back with suggestions on how to accommodate those losses,” Moffatt said. Those suggestions will be brought to councillors during their June meeting. Algonquin Highlands council will meet once a month during the pandemic.

Digital payment system for AH landfills

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The Township of Algonquin Highlands will introduce a digital payment system at its Maple Lake and Oxtongue Lake landfills, as well as the Dorset transfer station.

Councillors approved that purchase during their May 21 meeting, which was held with councillors participating remotely via online conferencing platform Zoom.

“Definitely through this COVID pandemic, we’ve really noticed some shortfalls in accepting cash at our sites, and not having a digital payment system set up,” said public works director Adam Thorn. “... It helps us to do direct digital payment, it also helps us track sales, with recording, and will decrease staff time for changing those receipts from paper to electronic.”

Thorn said he’d like to see the system enacted as soon as possible at the Maple Lake landfill, work out any bugs, and then implement it at the two other sites.

“This is a terrific idea, we are somewhat in the stone age regarding our ability to make online transactions, and has been pointed out, we’ve learned the need to be a little more flexible in that regard,” said Mayor Carol Moffatt as council approved the purchase.

The system costs \$3,100 plus taxes, with ongoing operating costs of \$1,900 per year.

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Virtual Terry Fox Run needs organizers for 40th anniversary

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Times Staff

The Terry Fox Run is going virtual across Canada this year, fulfilling Fox's dream of the Marathon of Hope continuing despite his death in 1981 – but organizers are needed for the Minden and Haliburton community runs this year.

Minden's Terry Fox Run has been held from 1994 to 2019 raising a total of \$319,024, while Haliburton has had a Terry Fox Run from 1981 to 2017, raising a total of \$146,165 for The Terry Fox Foundation and cancer research.

Kim Smith, Ontario community events coordinator, said she is actively looking for volunteers to act as organizers for the local events, which will be held virtually with participants taking part in any way they can, from wherever they can safely while respecting current physical distancing recommendations during the COVID-19 crisis.

"From now until September 20, we are in constant communications with the organizers so that they can post, email, text, fax, share, tweet and talk about the event and let their communities know that the Terry Fox Run is virtual this year and that we will still honour Terry and the 40th anniversary of the Marathon of Hope," Smith told the *Times*. "As there are fewer physical logistics, you can spend as much time as you like at your computer sharing information, engaging your supporters in the community and inviting new supporters to join in."

In total, 205 organizers are involved in promoting Terry Fox Runs across Ontario, while 650 communities across Canada are hosting the first-ever virtual Terry Fox Run this year.

"The response from our volunteers has been that they are united still, they will honour Terry, we will remember him for his determination and indomitable spirit, and they are raring to go in their communities to share the news of the Virtual Terry Fox Run," said Smith. "We are stronger together, that's for sure!"

Terry Fox Runs have taken place in hundreds of communities, thousands of schools and by millions of supporters



Archie Stouffer Elementary School's Logan Beers holds a Terry Fox flag while walking in the Minden school's annual walk last year to carry on the Marathon of Hope started by Fox 40 years ago. Logan, who was walking for a family friend and his "poppa" Bill Beers, was among a contingent of some 400 walkers and runners from ASES participating./DARREN LUM Staff

across Canada for 40 years. The decision to host the annual event virtually due to the spread of the novel coronavirus was announced to volunteers April 30.

"In these uncertain times, the one certainty we have is that cancer is not waiting for COVID-19 to be over," reads a May 15 press release from the Terry Fox Foundation. "This year, Canadians will unite in spirit, not in person, for their own

version of the Run on September 20, 2020. 'Terry Fox Run 2020. One Day. Your Way.' Millions of Terry Foxers will continue to honour Terry, aided by new technology that will enhance the virtual participation experience by providing a way to "get fundraising, get inspired and get fit."

Those interested in registering for the run can visit terryfox.org/run.

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DISCLAIMER

The information provided on this page is considered current and valid as of May 22, 2020.

While the Township of Minden Hills works diligently to provide the public with the most current information regarding service provisions and reductions during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are aware that, due to the rapidly evolving nature of outbreak, information can, and may, change on a daily basis. The public is strongly encouraged to refer our website at www.mindenhills.ca for current and up-to-date information. Anyone unable to access the website can call 705-286-1260 or email admin@mindenhills.ca for assistance.



BURN PERMITS ARE REQUIRED

Burn Permits are required to burn between 7 AM and 7 PM.

Please visit our website and complete the Burning Permit Application which can be downloaded at www.mindenhills.ca/emergency-fire-services/fire-prevention/.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE 2 DAY PERIOD TO PROCESS YOUR BURN PERMIT APPLICATION, NOTED ON THE APPLICATION FORM, HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO 3 – 4 BUSINESS DAYS.

For more information please contact the Township at 705-286-1260 ext. 212.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

Minden Hills is hosting a household hazardous waste collection event on Saturday, June 6 from 8am – 11:30am at the Scotch Line Landfill. Attendees are not permitted to exit their vehicles; materials will be unloaded by Staff. Minden Hills residents only.

VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

As a result of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak, all Council and Committee of the Whole meetings will be conducted virtually via web conference; and Closed Session meetings via teleconference, until further notice.

Meetings are held virtually, starting at 9:00 AM in the Minden Council office, 7 Milne Street. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

May 28 - Regular Council Meeting
June 11 - Committee of the Whole Meeting

During this unprecedented time, the health and safety of our community is of paramount importance. Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

TOWNSHIP SERVICE PROVISION REDUCTIONS

A reminder that all Township facilities remain closed to the public, until further notice. Administrative call answering services will remain available between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM Monday to Friday, 705-286-1260 listen carefully to the full message and follow the message prompts or admin@mindenhills.ca.

Please provide your name, contact information (phone and/or email) and a clear and brief message regarding the reason for your call.

The public can be assured that essential services will be maintained as much as possible.

We are asking the public to restrict inquiries to Township priority requests only and please understand that it may take longer to reply to messages as Staff handle increased phone and email inquiries.

We are also asking the public for their patience during this time and to observe our request to contact the Township for municipal related inquiries by the following methods only:

Telephone: 705-286-1260 listen carefully to the full message and follow the message prompts

Email: admin@mindenhills.ca

Please do not call or email the various Departments or their related extensions or submit inquiries through the Minden Hills website Contact Us form.

If you are aware of anyone who is not adhering to the Government's order which prohibits organized public events and social gatherings of more than five (5) people, or who are not practicing appropriate physical distancing; you are encouraged to contact your local police department or the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or online by visiting opp.ca/reporting.

For a complete list of all Township service provision reductions, please go to:

www.mindenhills.ca/covid-19-information/

School's Cool a no-go this year

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

For six weeks each summer for the past 20 years, three-and-four-year-old residents of Haliburton County have experienced what their upcoming first days of school might be like at School's Cool, a summer program run by SIRCH Community Services and the Trillium Lakelands District School Board that prepares children for kindergarten.

The program was cancelled only once in the past when it was short on funds. Last week it was cancelled again due to the COVID-19 pandemic. About 30 to 40 kids, some whose parents signed up for the popular summer program in January

to ensure a spot, are affected by the cancellation.

"Well, we hoped that it wouldn't have to be [cancelled], but there is a fair amount of preparatory work that has to happen - hiring instructors, pre-screening, and intakes with parents, organizing the six weeks, training and certifying the instructors - so the closer we came to June the more critical it was to make a decision," said Gena Robertson, executive director of SIRCH. "We have always held the program in a kindergarten room, partially to familiarize children with the environment they will be entering in the fall, so when we heard the schools would remain closed, we made the decision to cancel."

The announcement that both the Minden and Haliburton programs were cancelled was made on May 22 on social media, with a post on the SIRCH Community Services Facebook page noting that program administrators were "looking to see, as the summer progresses, whether there

are ways we can help prepare preschoolers for kindergarten once we have an idea of how the Ministry of Education and the school board will be proceeding in the fall." What might that look like?

"We're not sure yet," said Robertson. "It really depends on whether small groups are allowed, on whether kids are back in school in September. This is still constantly evolving."

While the program cancellation is disappointing for those preparing for the home-to-school transition in their lives, Robertson said support would still be available.

"We know how important preparation for entry to school is," said Robertson. "We are in discussion with our local school board, and once the Ministry of Education has a framework available for the fall, we will see if there are other ways we can support preschoolers in the adjustment to school."

Requests for COVID-19 testing increase

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Haliburton County is seeing an influx in requests for COVID-19 testing, according to the Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team, possibly in response to Premier Doug Ford's weekend public plea that Ontario residents get tested.

"Our numbers [of those being tested] from last week to this week have tripled, but we are doing everything we can to meet the demand," said Kimberley Robinson, HHFHT executive director and office manager. "I would surmise that it relates directly to Premier Doug Ford's announcement on Sunday, May 24. His plea was that everyone should be tested, which differs from the MOH testing strategy that calls for symptomatic patients or asymptomatic patients who are concerned that they have been exposed (people who are contacts of or may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case or who are at risk through their employment) to COVID-19 to be tested."

Robinson noted the health team is encouraging testing for the residents she defined and have increased hours to meet the demand.

"We had been reducing the hours of the assessment centre due to decreased demand from those who were having symptoms possibly related to COVID 19, which makes sense as cold and flu season are waning and we have not had a significant COVID 19 outbreak here," Dr. Norm Bottum of the HHFHT told the *Times*. "Now with asymptomatic testing we have seen a marked spike in phone calls! We definitely want to keep on testing those that have symptoms of concern or have had possible contact with COVID-19 cases. Those will be our highest priority. But we will now book appointments at the assessment centre for anyone who would like to be tested."

Though initially Ministry of Health guidelines suggested only those with one or more particular symptoms of the novel coronavirus - namely a fever or a cough, alongside travel - be tested, the province's testing strategy has increasingly added symptoms that qualify residents for tests. A COVID-19 self-assessment on the province's website lists symptoms that include: fever, chills, cough that's new or worsening, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, lost sense of taste or smell,

pink eye, unusual or long-lasting headache digestive issues, muscle aches, extreme tiredness, falling down and sluggishness or lack of appetite in children.

In their May 25 social media post, the HHFHT noted the assessment centre is open, but an appointment is required "to help control volume and maintain the safety of our team ... You will not be 'turned away,' but we may not have capacity to test you the day you call."

"We are going to look at our protocols and look at opportunities to increase our screening capacity," said Bottum. "Certainly those individuals without symptoms can be screened much more quickly than those with symptoms and we will be seeing more of the former."

"We are also looking into opportunities along with the hospital and EMS services to increase screening capacity to groups at highest risk, namely those businesses with a lot of customer contact, e.g. grocery and hardware stores."

Bottum said further details on this would be shared over the next week.

The Haliburton County assessment centre has completed 244 swabs as of May 25. Seven confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Haliburton County have been recorded as resolved since April. Currently, the May 26 cumulative data on confirmed cases within the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit notes one case in Haliburton as being a current high-risk contact, which the health unit's website defines as being an asymptomatic individual who is known to have been in contact with a confirmed or probable case. In total the HKPRDHU, which includes the City of Kawartha Lakes and Northumberland, reported 170 confirmed cases, with 145 of those being resolved.

Last Friday, the HKPRDHU offered an update on outbreaks in the region. One staff person tested positive for COVID-19 at Kawartha Lakes retirement residence in Bobcaygeon causing an outbreak to be declared on May 12, an asymptomatic resident tested positive for COVID-19 at Empire Crossing retirement residence in Port Hope causing an outbreak to be declared May 16, and an asymptomatic staff person tested positive for COVID-19 at Fenelon Court long-term care home causing an outbreak to be declared May 18. Outbreaks involving one resident being tested positive for COVID-19 that were declared May 4 at Caressant Care Mary in Lindsay and Maplewood nursing home in Brighton were declared

over on May 22.

Please note that testing is by appointment only. An online self-assessment is available at [Ontario.ca/coronavirus](https://ontario.ca/coronavirus). During regular business hours, call the Haliburton County COVID-19 Community Assessment Centre at 705-457-1212 and press 6, or Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000.

The Haliburton and Minden emergency departments remain open to accept all emergency and urgent care needs. For further information visit hhfht.com/COVID-19 or haliburtoncares.ca.

Effective immediately, testing is available for the following populations:

Symptomatic testing:

1. All people with at least one symptom of COVID-19, even for mild symptoms. Please see the "Guidance for All Populations" section of the Testing Guidance Update for details about these symptoms.

Asymptomatic, risk-based testing:

2. People who are concerned that they have been exposed to COVID-19. This includes people who are contacts of or may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case.

3. People who are at risk of exposure to COVID-19 through their employment, including essential workers (e.g., health care workers, grocery store employees, food processing plants).

No Ontarian who is symptomatic or who is concerned they have been exposed to COVID-19 will be declined a test at an Assessment Centre (either through appointment or walk-in, per the processes of each individual Assessment Centre). The Haliburton County COVID-19 Assessment Centre requires a booked appointment for testing to control volume and maintain the safety of our team. Please call 705-457-1212, press 6 to speak to a member of our clinical team and to book an appointment.

Excerpt from the Ministry of Health's memorandum re: Additional Direction on Testing Strategy Shared by the Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team

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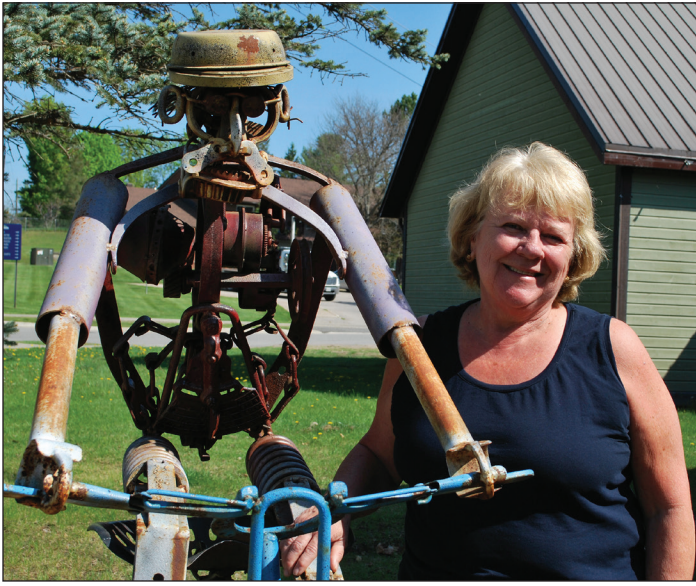
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Vlad Nikolic pushes off from shore, heading out on to the Gull River with his friend Graeme Gentle, who looks back from his kayak on Wednesday, May 20 in Minden. Last week's summer-like weather encouraged people to get outside, enjoying outdoor activities such as flatwater kayaking, bicycling and walking. / DARREN LUM Staff



Molly McInerney, owner of Molly's Bistro Bakery, stands with the cyclist sculpture outside the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. Molly's Bistro Bakery, located next to the cultural centre on Bobcaygeon Road, was recently named one of the province's best bicycle-friendly businesses by Ontario by Bike! / CHAD INGRAM Staff

Molly's wins cycle-friendly award

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Cyclists pedalling their way through Minden may want to stop in for a treat at Molly's Bistro Bakery along Bobcaygeon Road, the restaurant recently recognized as one of the best bicycle-friendly business in the province by cycling organization Ontario by Bike!

According to the organization's website, the businesses are selected for "their efforts

in and excelling at providing services and a welcome to cyclists visiting their locations as well as supporting cycling within their community." One business is selected in each of the province's 13 Regional Tourism Organizations, with Molly's chosen for Ontario's Highlands, which includes the Haliburton Highlands.

"They're lots of fun," McInerney says of the cyclists who stop in for a bite along their journey. Molly's is open for takeout during the COVID-19 pandemic, and also has frozen items available.



Minden's Graeme Gentle, left, and friend Vlad Nikolic go for a paddle on the Gull River.

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Subscriptions must be prepaid. Call Debbie @ 705-286-1288**Sinc****I**F YOU EVER met Sinclair Russell, you didn't forget him.

During the weekend, Minden and Haliburton County at large lost one of its most colourful characters, colourful character being an understatement.

For many reading this, Sinc will need no introduction at all. A descendant of the pioneering Prentice and Pritchard families, in his words, he was related to half the county. He was also a walking vault of its history.

After growing up in Carnarvon, he left for Toronto where he took up residency in the Church and Wellesley area. His keen eye for design and décor led to jobs creating window displays for the major department stores of Toronto and New York City, and eventually a career that took him all over Europe decorating extravagant galas.

In 2014, Sinc returned to Haliburton County, purchasing a building in downtown Minden where he set up a pop-up Christmas shop. That's when I first met him. In the following years, the community benefitted from his talents, with Sinc heading up decorating in Minden's downtown. He became Minden's Father Christmas, not only appearing as Father Christmas in the Santa Claus parade, but founding the festive Lights & Delights event, and helping to co-ordinate the cultural centre's Festival of Trees. He

was a founder of Minden Pride, and was always willing to talk publicly about what it had been like growing up gay in Haliburton County more than a half-century ago.

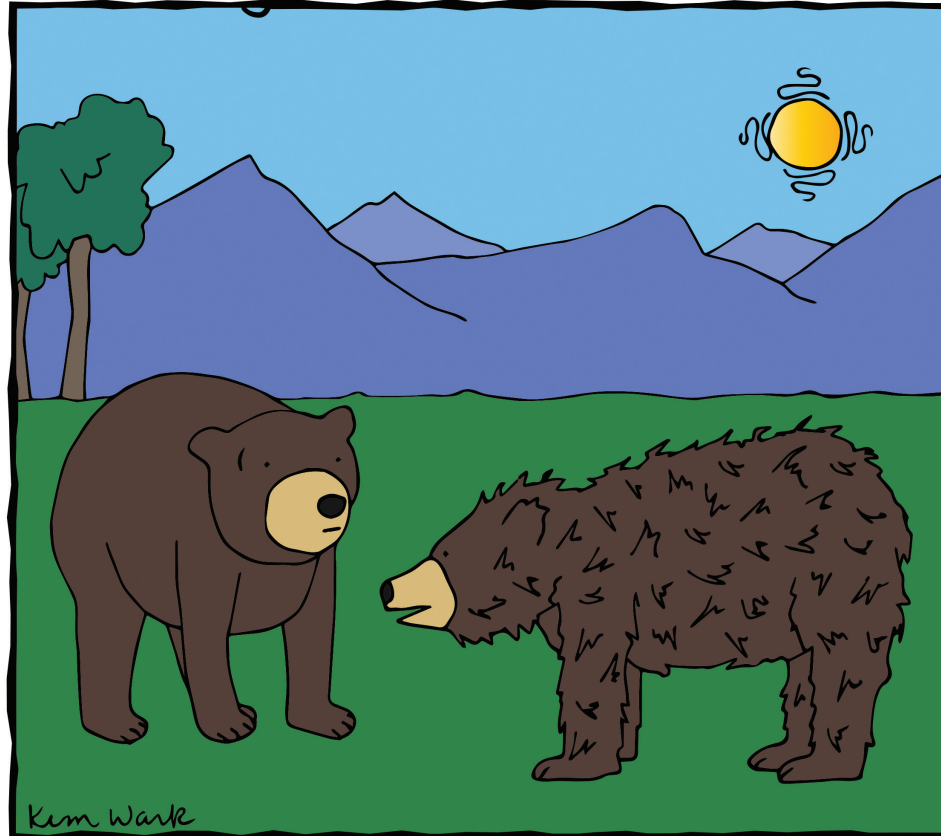
"It's not really all that much about being gay," he told me of Minden Pride for a story I wrote about him in 2017. "It's about being inclusive to everybody. We don't expect the world to turn gay. We just want everybody to be accepted."

**CHAD INGRAM**
Reporter

The interview for that story led to a tradition of occasional lunches, always at the Dominion Hotel, between Sinc and myself over the last three years. I always made sure I had a large chunk of time booked for those lunches, and I'm not sure there were any that lasted less than two hours. He'd regale me with stories of his journeys, many of which could never be printed here, and of rubbing elbows with celebrities along the way. There was also generally some degree of local gossip. I will miss those lunches. I will miss my friend.

Sinc was charismatic, acerbically witty, sarcastic and delightfully inappropriate when he felt so compelled. He was singularly unique. He was wholly and thoroughly himself.

My condolences to Sinc's many family members and friends. Wherever he is now, the party is about to get a lot more fabulous.

Kwarky

Kim Wark

*"What? I slept seven months."***Around the corner****T**HERE ARE NO grouse in the woods where I now let my pup run – and that is why I choose to take her there. Grouse should not be harassed this time of year and Rosie is born and bred to be a harasser of grouse. It is her calling.

That drive is deep within her and, at less than 10 weeks old, it already shows in the way she moves through the woods and the clearings. It's apparent in the manner in which she runs ahead, searching; nose up, into the wind whenever possible. She dances through the cover like she was born in it.

She keeps near and continually checks back with me because, though she is a bold pup, she yet lacks the confidence required to range too far ahead into places unknown. This is something she will keep if I train her right; for a springer spaniel should hunt close so that flushed birds can be seen and shots can be taken.

That is why each morning of late, we slip into those woods and I zigzag through what passes as cover. I am trying to gently instill the habit of hunting with me and changing directions as I do. And, lo and behold, these days she does just that.

The pup could not have come at a better time. These last few months have piled sadness upon sadness.

At times like these, a puppy run offers a more pleasant diversion. Each eager step is driven by curiosity and there is unbridled joy in every bound. They view the world through innocent eyes – taking it all in, rejoicing in the unexplored possibilities that lie ahead, discovering who they are meant to be. And it is wonderful to see.

These excursions of mine present a chance to forget our ever-present troubles

for a while and marvel at this little miracle who scours the woods with the enthusiasm only a happy dog can muster. And when we get home, she quickly reminds me a puppy has two speeds – full out and fast asleep – and, after a morning of trying to keep up, I believe I am coming to favour the latter.

As I write this, Rosie slumbers deeply in an armchair whose legs I have removed. It is beside my desk and when I first set it up, I told Jenn it would allow me to watch Rosie so I can keep her out of trouble. But, if the truth is to be told, having Rosie there just brings me comfort, mostly by demonstrating, that even in the midst of great sorrow, you can find countless small reasons to smile.

A pup looks to you for guidance and fun. It wants to give and be shown endless affection. It needs approval, the chance to make mischief and assurances that she is a welcome part of the pack. And I am only too happy to oblige Rosie in

all these things. She has stolen my heart already.

She is the perfect tonic for me right now. She provides purpose. She reminds me of simple lessons: that a good nap is made better when it is earned; that it is OK to celebrate little things like the sudden discovery of a dandelion or the excitement that can be had chasing a butterfly; how fine unconditional love and responsibility can feel. A pup will show you how to live in the moment, but also how to look forward to tomorrow and the day after that.

It will cause you to suspect there will better days just around the corner when we will smile more often – and there will certainly be mornings where we will walk through those places that hold a few grouse.
(Dedicated to Ian Watt.)**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Discussion and ideas needed

LAST WEEK'S column about what might happen to the former Leslie Frost Natural Resources Centre on Highway 35 just south of Dorset sparked some discussion, and some ideas.

Discussion and ideas are keys to finding a suitable future for the centre, left vacant and deteriorating by the Ontario government for a decade and half. The government holds the title to the Frost Centre, but it is owned by the people of Ontario, and it's time for them to get deeply involved with discussion and ideas.

A friend who lives in another part of the province messaged me with

his thoughts and an idea. He recalled that H. R. MacMillan, the former timber cruiser who became a giant in the Canadian forest industry, was born in Stouffville and educated at the Ontario Agriculture College in Guelph.

MacMillan spent his career in forestry research and development and founded H. R. MacMillan Export Company, British Columbia's first locally-owned lumber export company. It later merged with Bloedel, Stewart and Welsh Ltd. to become MacMillan-Bloedel, which was sold later to Weyerhaeuser Company.

MacMillan probably was the most successful forester in Canadian history and funded many philanthropic

endeavours for the public good. Although H. R. died in 1976, his philanthropy legacy might still have money for new projects.

My friend suggested that MacMillan legacy funds, combined with the University of Guelph and perhaps Toronto area school boards might form a coalition to buy the Frost Centre, start university classes and day schools for students, plus being a public setting for studies in forestry and nature in general.

Might work. Might not. But at the very least it's an idea that might help generate other ideas.

Also, someone I met last weekend for the first time told me how his family had cottage property in the Lake Simcoe area. There was a special tract of forest land near their place that was put up for sale.

Family members and others saw the property as a place that should be preserved in its natural state, and not torn up for a commercial enterprise. They got together, raised money, bought the land and donated it to the Nature Conservancy.

That's another thought that might spark other ideas.

Two important realizations are emerging from the horrid pandemic choking life from our world, and they can be connected to thoughts about the Frost Centre.

The first is a reminder that we humans are animals just like birds, pigs, bats, and monkeys. We forget how interrelated we are. So interrelated that non-human animals are passing on to us more pathogens that can create deadly infectious diseases.

When a pathogen, basically an infectious agent, jumps from a non-human animal into a human and successfully establishes itself, it is called zoonosis. It is a word that scientists say we can expect to hear more and more.

COVID-19 is a disease resulting from a virus believed to have jumped into a human from a bat, then spread rapidly from human to human.

Uprooting the habitats of non-human animals, plus changes in the world's climate, are moving non-human animals deeper into our human world. A simple example:

We never had to worry about ticks in Haliburton County. Now changing climate, including milder winters, are bringing ticks carrying diseases such as Lyme farther north. Lyme infections have been climbing.

Some scientists believe these changes will continue, helping to increase zoonosis.

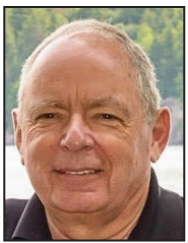
It is critically important that people become better informed about nature to better understand the changes and how to live with them.

The second realization is that governments, which are emptying the public coffers in the fight against COVID-19 are going to become desperate for money. One way of getting it is to sell off precious natural areas to commercial interests, which offer not only money from sales, but coveted tax dollars.

We need our governments to protect our natural areas. We need our governments to promote environmental education and to help provide settings where that can be done.

Most of all we need community discussion and ideas. We can't continue to exist in a world where all the thinking, discussions and ideas are left to politicians and bureaucrats.

More community involvement must become a key element in our future. Governments cannot do it all.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock



Laurie Sweig

Practical Fitness

Micro movements

THE BIGGEST challenge for many people is remembering to exercise. Actually, the biggest challenge is wanting to exercise. Perhaps we'll take this one challenge at a time so we'll focus on the remembering part.

One day a friend presented me with a bit of wisdom. She said stop using the words "just, even, or only" when talking about exercise. As an example, I may have said to her "I went for a bike ride the other day, but I only did 20 kilometres." There are two parts to using "only" in that statement. The first one is, what doesn't seem like a big distance to me might be a huge accomplishment for another person. Point made, point taken. The second is that doing anything healthy needs to be celebrated - no matter how big or small.

Now, with that in mind, let's talk about getting some movement into our lives. The first thing to do is to grab a pen and a piece of paper. In big, bold letters write: MOVE YOUR BODY. Next, tape that note somewhere in your kitchen where you will see every single time that you walk in the room.

Here are some exercises you can do when you go into the kitchen and you're waiting for something to happen (kettle to boil, microwave to beep, sink to fill with water,

etc.):

- Push-ups: These can be done at the counter top. Grab the edge of the counter, spread your hands a decent distance apart, move your feet back, lift your heels, and start doing push-ups. No matter how strong you are if you do enough of these they will work the targeted muscle group. An easier alternative is to find a section of wall where you can do them.

- Squats: There isn't much floor space needed to do squats. Feet are hip width apart, lower your buttock as far as can while bending your knees. Great way to get something from a lower cupboard instead of bending over.

- Calf Raises: I did some while doing the dishes tonight. While standing raise your heels off the ground, and then lower them. That's one rep!

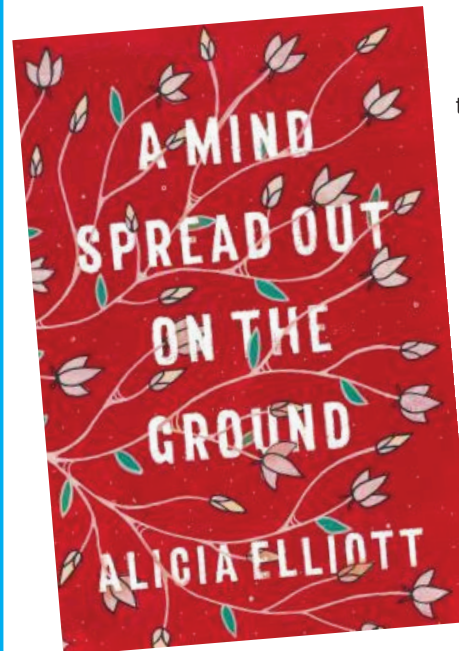
There are so many other exercises that can be done, like marching on the spot, lunges and high knees. The idea is to move. Every little bit counts.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.

Book of the Month - June

A Mind Spread Out on the Ground
by Alicia Elliott



In a visceral work that asks essential questions about the treatment of Native people in North America while drawing on intimate details of her own life and experience with intergenerational trauma, Elliott offers insight into the ongoing legacy of colonialism. She covers such wide-ranging topics as race, parenthood, love, mental illness, poverty, sexual assault, gentrification, writing and representation, while making connections both large and small between the past and present, the personal and political - from overcoming a years-long battle with head lice to the way Native writers are treated within the Canadian literary industry; her childhood diet of Kraft Dinner to how systemic oppression is directly linked to health problems in Native communities.

With deep consideration and searing prose, Elliott provides a candid look at our past, an illuminating portrait of our present and a powerful tool for a better future.



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
chad@haliburtonpress.com

Making a dream come true, one kilometre at a time

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

Riding up County Road 121 a few kilometres from Kinmount, 47-year-old Arie Hoogerbrugge pedals his bicycle, smiling, free from the constraints of an ordinary life, pushing his physical and mental limits during his epic 55,000 kilometre dream ride that started in St. John's, Newfoundland on Nov. 12.

It was a wobbly start, as he couldn't even get on the weighed down bike to ride it onto the ferry destined for Newfoundland, as he was saying goodbye to his parents. By the time he went through Kinmount, he had ridden more than 5,000 kilometres. His result is proof of his determination. However he is still a long way from his ride's completion, which will see him travel for three years through 24 countries, including Northern Canada, the U.S. and South America.

The former long-haul driver is used to challenges and large loads, requiring skill and finesse under difficult conditions all year round. His touring bike is like a three-wheeled, push pedal version of a transport truck. It is barely visible for the panniers on the front and the back of the bike except for the tires it rolls on. The bike pulls a trailer with his sleeping bag and tent. The entire haul includes everything he needs to document the journey with GoPro cameras and his laptop; and for living on the road, whether its food and water, clothes, or tools for maintenance and emergencies.

Hoogerbrugge is a guy that follows the beat of his own drum. This trip is indicative of that way of life. It's a test of his mettle and will serve as documentation of his courage, and the good in people.

"In my world this is perhaps the greatest challenge that I can come up with that would possibly push me to the point of failure. I have to believe that at my age that some of my best years are still ahead of me. And this seems like the way to prove this to myself," he said, as he posted online before starting his trip.

Hoogerbrugge recognizes the challenges to his plan imposed by measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, which includes limitations to access public bathrooms and restaurants. It prompted him to bypass the Greater Toronto Area in favour of smaller towns like Kinmount and Minden Hills and has made him consider altering his journey to get to the US sooner in his trip, as they have less restrictions.

"My goal is exhaust all options. Pivot accordingly and exhaust all options," he said.

Born on May 18, 1973 to Arie Sr. and Gerty, Hoogerbrugge is the eldest of three boys who were raised in Grimsby, Ontario. He is accustomed to hard work and risk.

Hoogerbrugge's work life started at 10 with a paper route, which grew to two routes. He saved his money and spent it on his hobby of buying and keeping reptiles and amphibians. During high school he owned 50 types of reptiles and kept them in his parents' basement. This hobby was parlayed into a business, as he became a reptile wholesaler in 1995, which then evolved, into opening the retail store, The Reptile Store in Hamilton. He also opened a fish store. At the height of his business operations, he had 13 full and part time employees. In 1997, he took his first ever trip out of North America to Belize where he picked rice and found his love for the jungle. It led him to sell his house he bought before he was 20 and use the money to buy a house in the Belize jungle. Now he has 40 acres and a place he calls home and his future.

Then by 2011 he shifted gears, moved to Alberta and worked in the oil and natural gas industry. Later that year, he completed his



Long-distance cyclist Arie Hoogerbrugge takes a break from his epic 55,000 kilometre ride on Friday afternoon on May 22 in Kinmount. Hoogerbrugge, who had to stay at his aunt's in Kingston for a couple of months because of COVID-19 restrictions, has completed a little more than 5,000 kilometres his journey, which started this past winter from St. John's, Newfoundland and has taken him throughout the Maritimes and Quebec. The remainder of his trip is expected to take him across all or parts of Canada, including Northwest Territories, the US, and South America over three years. /DARREN LUM Staff



Long-distance cyclist Arie Hoogerbrugge rides through the heart of Kinmount.

first expedition bike ride that took him 6,500 kilometres across Western and Northern Canada, completed over 14 weeks, less a day. That ride planted the seed that drove him to plan this epic ride, which will include the Dempster Highway – which connects the Klondike Highway in Yukon to Inuvik, Northwest Territories – where it will take him to the village of Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories.

A couple of years later he became a long-haul truck driver for Voortman's Cookies.

In six-and-a-half years of driving he drove close to 1.2 million kilometres. From his website, he said it was the "craziest, most difficult and most challenging accomplishment of my life." He's using his savings from that work to embark on this once-in-a-lifetime ride.

The lonely road biking is actually full of hope and people willing to open their hearts, Hoogerbrugge has discovered. There were numerous people he encountered, who gave him support in the form of money, gift cards, meals and places to stay, particularly in Nova Scotia and PEI. He said he went wherever people took him. His notoriety grew through his online presence, which included a CBC

report about him. He added 1,300 more kilometres to his trip, as a result of the welcome.

He told them to expect more people to follow in his tire tracks, as others will be inspired.

"When you see someone else do it all of a sudden you have permission," he said.

That's how he was inspired to hit the road.

"Years and years ago, I watched a YouTube video of a kid half my age, biking on the Dempster Highway during the winter. It was like, 'You can do that?' Basically, the video was saying, 'Of course you can do that.' And that's where all of a sudden, well, I can bike across Canada during the winter," he said.

Russ Duhaime of Minden invited Hoogerbrugge to spend the night, saying this was about giving back after he and his son, Owen had experienced a similar generosity while they were on a 30-day bike tour a few years ago.

"We were overwhelmed by the kindness of people all along the way, So, when I heard Arie was changing his route and would be travelling through the area, I sent him a message. It's sort of an extension of the generosity we received," he said in a text.

Duhaime, who has a passion for cycling,



The bicycle crank, belonging to Arie Hoogerbrugge shows the wear of what close to 5,000 kilometres of pedalling produces. Hoogerbrugge, only wears Dakota steel toe boots, on and off the bike.

said he only knew of Hoogerbrugge through a cycling forum.

Hoogerbrugge is thankful to all his supporters, in particular his aunt. She allowed him to stay for two months when COVID-19 restrictions were implemented in Ontario.

Any fears he has on the road pale in comparison to the fear of an unfulfilling life.

From his website, Hoogerbrugge said, "Boredom, resignation and a life of predictability are my biggest fears. And I will endeavour to do my best to keep these fears at bay and that my story may have many more chapters ahead of it."

Hoogerbrugge hopes his documentation of his journey will be made into a documentary or short film.

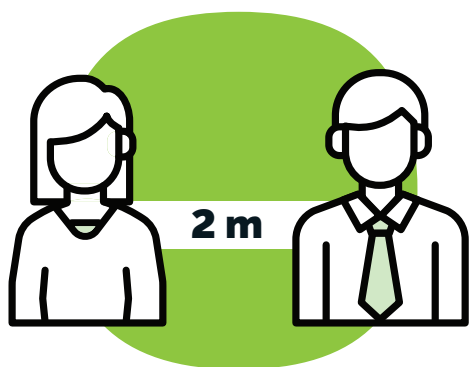
He believes the completion of this ride will enable to help him in his legacy goal of planting a million trees, or be part of an effort to plant a billion trees, and help with a greener earth. Go with him on his journey through his website safariairie.ca, YouTube posts, and his various social media portals.

His advice for others to complete their own adventures?

"Just go for it," he said.

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\$499,900**

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- Beautiful view of Gull Lake
- One of our premier lakes, great boating, fishing & more!



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- Beautifully maintained home or cottage on a spacious lot
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- Hike the trails to the secluded studio in the woods



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- 2-bedroom cottage sitting right on the lakes edge
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- Historic property in a prime location bordering on Hwy 35
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Hitting the links
Above, golfer Dorothy Black of Haliburton walks to the tee box for her first drive of the season, as her friend Elsie Stamp of Innisfil grabs her club for her turn on the first hole at the Beaverbrook Golf Course on Saturday, May 23 in Minden. As COVID-19 restrictions begin reducing around the province, golf courses begin to open for the season. The nine-hole golf course located on Golf Course Road off of Water Street (via Highway 35) opened for the season on Thursday, May 21. /DARREN LUM Staff



Left, Dorothy Black of Haliburton finishes her first drive of the season.

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1. It doesn't mean business as usual!

2. It does mean the construction industry can proceed following the guidelines to build & renovate the homes in Haliburton County.

3. It does mean that each company will have their own set of policies & protocols for both employees and customers.

4. Before you enter a construction site, whether you are the owner or employee you must:

a. Check entry requirements & complete health survey

b. Follow all directions the company has provided you with.

c. Do not enter if you have a fever / cough or are not feeling well.

For more information visit: covid-19.ontario.ca

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A walk in the woods, foraging wild edibles

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Times Staff

Carolyn Langdon is a Master Gardener, and runs Wild Edibles, offering foraging walks through the food forest and an exploration of wild gastronomy. When she chats about her finds throughout the forest, she's lively and engaged, sharing knowledge she has collected throughout her years of harvesting wild plants. Cranberry bogs in Haliburton County? She knows of them. Specific collection spots for a plant growing in a ditch? She can list off directions. Here, she shares tips and tricks for foraging during this season, in Haliburton County, always with an interest in doing so sustainably.

"I'm really big on eating the invasives," she told the *Times*. "We eat the invaders. It's our woodland plants that need to be protected. Anything that grows in the forest, be very careful. Anything that grows in meadows, or ditches, or on our roadsides, or disturbed areas where there's clearings, those are things that have come in and invaded to cover up the bare ground."

While Langdon encourages residents – both permanent and seasonal – to enjoy what they find, she reminds everyone to think before they harvest.

"My personal ethics is that this is our local food, and I think it's acceptable for us to forage in our backyard sustainably and respectfully, but I think that the sale of woodland plants is not ethical, and it's not ethical for people outside of our area to come and forage in our county."

Wild leeks

The harbinger of spring, leeks are often a familiar plant to those who recognize their green leaves or oniony smell.

"My husband and I, we eat the white part, and this is the main thing – I would underline it – eat the green part of the leek," she said. "Don't harvest the leek just for the little white onion bulb. The best nutrition, the most nutrition, is in the green part. The colourful parts of every native wild thing - mushrooms are a different story - are the most nutritious part."

Langdon makes leek pesto in ice cube trays, but prefers to eat leeks raw, not blanched or cooked ahead of time.

"Take some leeks and don't freeze them," she said. "Don't preserve them. Eat them now, eat them seasonally and enjoy them. We need the medicine from the leeks right now, we've just come through winter, so these plants are, especially these spring plants that have a very short season, it's for a reason. We're not supposed to eat them all year round. We need that medicine now, in the months of April and May. Freezing them, preserving them, pickling them, actually diminishes their nutritive powers ... And because we're taking from nature, we want to consume it in its most raw and natural form, with the most nutrition, so we want to respect that nature is finite."

But be cautious too of where you harvest, she warns, reminding readers of the challenges with leek shortages in Quebec due to commercialization. Pick one leaf of a leek that has two or three leaves, she recommends. "If you're going to a place ... you can tell other people go there because I find there's big divots," she said. "People dig up clumps and then they don't fill up the hole, they don't put leaves back in, and it just looks like people have been in there digging up clumps of leeks. That would be, I would say, an over-



Japanese knotweed, an invasive plant, can be found on the side of the road in Haliburton County./Submitted by Carolyn Langdon

harvested location. I always tell people, go in and leave no trace. Don't take the dirt - leave the dirt behind, put the leaves back in place, because there are all sorts of living organisms in the soil and you're exposing them, you're killing other living things when you don't cover your tracks ... My whole premise about plants from our forest is that they should not be commercialized. I would put that in big, bold letters, underscored, in flashing red. Our woodland plants should not be commercialized."

Langdon also notes that digging up a clump of wild leeks takes more time, too, which can lead to an interest for black flies.

"Digging up a clump of wild leeks, the black flies are all over you, and I think maybe the black flies and the leeks coalesce at the same time so that we don't over harvest, because the black flies drive us out of the bush," she said, laughing.

Fiddleheads

"Fiddleheads, I don't even pick fiddleheads in Haliburton County, because quite frankly we don't have enough," said Langdon. "To get a meals worth, I would decimate that colony of ostrich fern." The choicest fiddleheads, she said, are from the ostrich fern, which in the right conditions can grow four or five feet high.

"I don't recommend harvesting fiddleheads in Haliburton County, unless you have

some on your own property and you're just harvesting a handful, one or two meals a season," she said. "They're just such a beautiful fern, regal and majestic looking. I would rather see vast colonies of this plant than to harvest it."

Sometimes, said Langdon, commercially available fiddleheads are not grown sustainably.

"If you do pick them, make sure you boil them for at least 10 minutes before you saute them or use them in a recipe."

Japanese knotweed

"Let's talk about something that people should harvest in large quantity," says Langdon. "Japanese knotweed."

Japanese knotweed was popular as an ornamental, brought into garden centres a few decades ago, said Langdon. Similar in appearance to bamboo, it is hollow with joints like bamboo. In August, it gets a spray of white flowers that make it easily identifiable, but now, it looks like a pile of dead hollow sticks, sometimes with stalks as big around as a broom handle.

Langdon has been harvesting Japanese knotweed for about a decade in Haliburton, spotting patches of it in the ditch along the county roads, or even in downtown areas. She calls it a "pernicious invasive," which can sometimes grow six feet tall.

She notes it can be harvested like as-

paragus, with the fatter ones being better than the skinny ones. She recommends harvesting them when they are about 10 centimetres or four inches long, up to 20 centimetres or eight inches long, and when they are about two centimetres thick. "Honestly, they should harvest pounds and pounds of them," she said. "Chop them up and put them in the freezer for pies ... Pick as much as you want, freeze it, pickle it."

"The other thing with Japanese knotweed, any recipe that calls for rhubarb, substitute Japanese knotweed," she said, noting its sour taste. "My family, we get Japanese knotweed and cranberry custard pie. That's a family favourite, my mom loves it. The knotweed is not as sour or stringy as rhubarb and for that reason I like it better."

Langdon said it's important to harvest only what you have time to process, because they get slimy quite fast.

"You can't let them sit around, even in the fridge," she said. "Don't wash them until you're ready to chop them up and put them in a freezer, they will get slimy. Better not to wash them until you're ready to process them. They're not going to keep for weeks."

If you miss the patches – which can only be harvested for a week or two - this year, watch for them toward the end of May when you can see them growing. "They grow a foot a day," said Langdon.

Garlic mustard

Garlic mustard is not widely available throughout Haliburton County, but Langdon has spotted patches of it, recognizable with its bright white flower. "That's a nice spring green," she said. "You can eat it raw. We had it in our greens at breakfast, and in a salad at night ... It's so tasty. It has a mild taste and right now it's very tender and very nutritious."

Stinging nettles

Langdon also recommends finding a friend with a farm, or animals, who might have stinging nettles that come in with hay and start growing around pens where people keep animals, or barns.

"It is incredible and it's another springtime plant," she said. "It has more calcium than milk. Just enough iron as beef. It's high in vitamin A and in vitamin K. It's good for arthritis, allergies, celiac disease, large prostate, it goes on and on. And it's an invasive, and anybody who has it on their property would be more than happy to have you come and pick as much as you can."

Langdon wears gloves when she collects stinging nettles, due to the pain – which lasts about 10 or 15 minutes – of their sting, and also long pants and a long shirt collecting in a bag that stays open.

Stinging nettles will last in the refrigerator for a few days, but then need to be blanched in order for the heat to take away the sting. "It doesn't need very much heat, just a wilt-ing is all it needs," she said.

Stinging nettles can be used as any green plant.

"I would use it in place of spinach, anything from eggs Florentine to lasagna," she said. "Any recipe where you would use any cooked green. You can use it in combination with other greens, throw some in a stirfry."

Now is also the season to harvest burdock root and dandelion, the latter which can be used as a caffeine-free coffee alternative. Later in the season, Langdon notes milkweed and cattails should be on the list for local foragers.

Paramedic Services Week

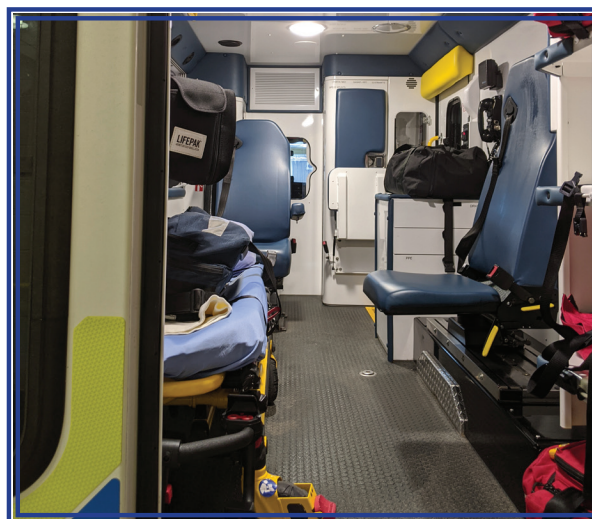
May 24 – 30, 2020

Pandemic: Paramedics on the Front Line



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Taking precautions

A masked customer waits for an employee to finish wiping the handles to the doors, belonging to Stedman's V & S on Bobcaygeon Road in Minden. Recently, health experts in Canada have recommended the use of masks for people who are unable to social distance while shopping or out in the public to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus. / DARREN LUM Staff



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					1			5
7		3	8	6			4	
3				2	9			
			4			2	8	
	5					4	7	
					3			
4	6						9	
5							6	

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 17

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Tour de force

Seven-year-old Ruby Mansfield pedals by with dad watching on during a Saturday morning in Minden on May 23. Ruby had only got her training wheels off two weeks before and continues to improve. /DARREN LUM Staff



Archie Stouffer Elementary School

Learning@Home program

Ms. Patterson's class

ONLINE LEARNING

VS

CLASSROOM LEARNING

Which one is better?

Online Learning vs Classroom Learning - PERSUASIVE ESSAY

Online Learning is Better than Classroom Learning

Doing anything from the comfort of your own home is good. Online learning is beneficial and makes students more relaxed and less stressed.

You get to work on your own schedule which means you can sleep in, stay up late



and get any chores or activities done throughout the day as long as the school work is getting handed in on time. According to blog. hotspot.com flexible work schedules are critical to happier, more productive students. People are happier and more productive when their schedule is flexible.

You can work at your own pace. This means that if you are slower, you have time to catch up, and if you're faster you can go ahead. According to iste.org self-paced learning truly transforms a classroom. Self-paced learning makes it easier for students to work because they are not rushed to finish and the other students aren't waiting for the next lesson to start like they would be at school.

It's a quieter environment for students and they can sit and work wherever they are comfortable. According to learningliftoff.com the environment that a student is working in lets them get more work done. Students like to work in quiet and comfortable environments instead of at a desk with noises all

around them.

Learning online is not just simple but it actually benefits students.

By Layla Adams

Is Classroom Learning Better?

With classroom learning students can learn more than just the curriculum. Online learning has some pros but is not as good as classroom learning.

First, not all students have the same level of internet connections. In a Globe and Mail article the Ontario Education Minister, Stephen Lecce said, "The move toward online for public education will not be seamless as educators and government grapple with issues around inequitable access to technology. "Some students may have trouble since they might not



have a very good internet connection.

Second, classroom learning can help kids learn to work together. In India Today, it talked about 7 ways that classroom learning is better. Two of the ways it said were collaborative learning and that it improves social skills. Learning in a classroom teaches you to work together.

Finally, teachers in a classroom can change the way they teach to help their students understand better. In India Today it also said that teachers can change the way they teach to help the different types of learners in their classroom. Teachers can do many different activities to help kids in their class learn.

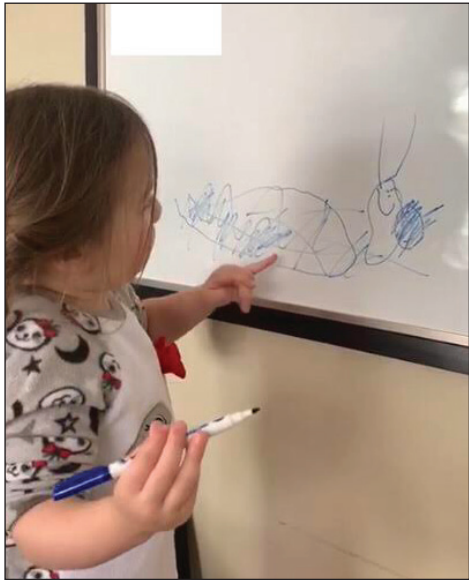
Therefore classroom learning can help students that maybe do not have good internet, by teaching what they need to learn and social skills.

By Grace Alder

ASES kindergarten classes

This is a collection of photos from different kindergarten classes, to celebrate them, and the different ways they are learning. Also, to thank the teachers, support staff, secretaries, Mrs. Austin and Mr. Gervais for making sure that everyone has what they need to be able to continue the love of learning from home.

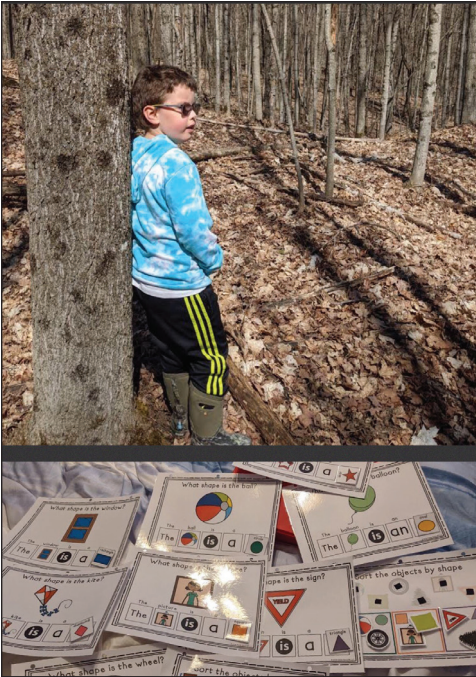
Submitted by Chris Little



Maddie has been drawing and painting on her whiteboard, chalkboard and deck. This is her detailed drawing of a snail.



Harmony has been working hard to fill the missing numerals on the hundred chart by looking at the number patterns.



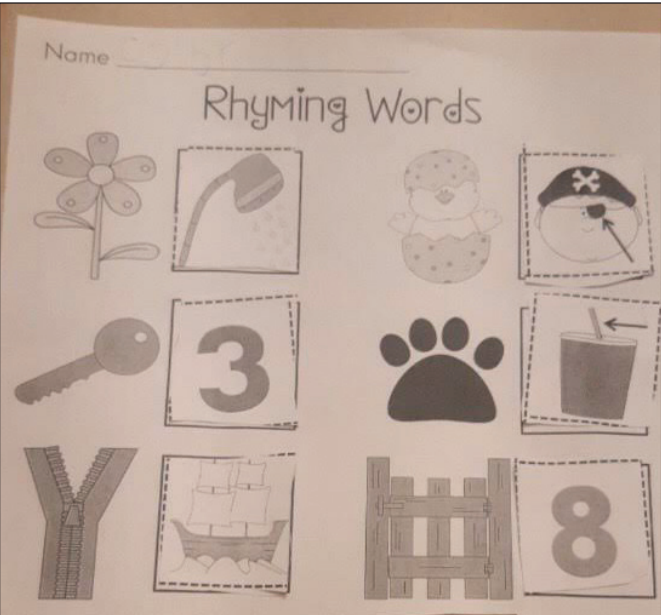
Dayton has been snuggled up with his Mom, reading interactive books about shape and colour. He is also hiking and looking for signs of wildlife.



Kolby counted a large collection of dried and dyed pasta pieces. He chose to organize them in groups, skip counted by fives to get to 60, then counted on to get 63!



Layla wants to say thank you for all of her learning materials !



Colby has been working hard on fine motor skills, cutting, pasting and printing while also practicing rhyming with this worksheet.

Left, Ethan and his sister Kennedy went exploring with their family, looking for things that live in the woods and in different trees. Ethan shares some of the learning@home activities with his daycare, and they are working on seed journals and growing chia pets.

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Funding doesn't go far enough, CARP says

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The president of the Haliburton chapter of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons says that while funding for seniors announced by the federal government earlier this month amid the COVID-19 crisis is welcome news, it doesn't go far enough, and the organization is requesting a number of other changes to ease the financial burden on senior citizens.

On May 12, the government announced that seniors will receive a one-time payment of up to \$500 to help offset their expenses amid the ongoing pandemic. This includes a one-time payment of \$300 for all seniors who qualify for Old Age Security, as well as an additional \$200 for those who qualify for the guaranteed income supplement.

"The \$300 plus the additional \$200 for GIS was welcomed but does not go far enough," Haliburton CARP chapter president Jon Dannewald told the *Times* in an email. "CARP members are concerned with retirement security and access to liquidity. Seniors are looking to have as many tools as possible to maximize their cash flow and protect their retirement."

Seniors who qualify for it may receive the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit, as well as the one-time payment through the GST credit. The government has also reduced the minimum amount of withdrawals from registered retirement income funds for 2020 by 25 per cent.

CARP is requesting that the government waive mandatory RRIF withdrawals completely for 2020; eliminate withholding tax on RRSP withdrawals and allow two years to repay taxes owing; and follow through on an election promise to increase both the OAS and CPP.

"As one of the demographics fatally threatened by COVID-19, many seniors are in desperate need of these supports in order to make ends meet while in social-isolation, quarantine or recovery," reads a release from CARP. "Other have had their income slashed through loss of their job or wages."

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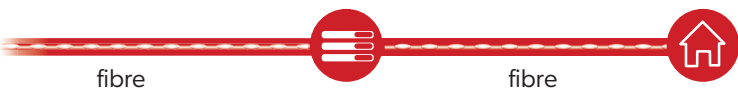


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County Administrative Office, 11 Newcastle Street, Minden ON
Land Registry Office, 12 Newcastle Street, Minden ON

Quotation Documents can be obtained by contacting
Pam Weiss, Administrative Assistant,
705-286-1762 x 225 or pweiss@county.haliburton.on.ca

All Quotations must be clearly marked, Quotation 2020-2-e Janitorial Services and must be received no later than 2:00 pm on Monday, June 15, 2020 by email in confidence to pweiss@county.haliburton.on.ca.



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Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the full job description.

Please submit your resume and cover letter by
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Dawn Mugford-Guay, Administrative Assistant
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

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We work closely with Police and Emergency Services to provide emotional and practical support to victims of crime and tragic circumstance. Assistance is provided by staff and trained volunteers over the phone, on-scene, and in our office. Volunteer teams are available 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

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To help guide the organization to support victims of crime and tragic circumstances. We are seeking community minded individuals to join our board which meets monthly. No experience necessary; Finance Management, Human Resources, Business, Social Services and Legal experience is always welcome.

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We will always love
And miss you
And wish
You were here."*

*We miss you and love you,
Gord, Cathy, Laura,
Glenn, Ritchie,
Grandkids &
Great-Grandkids*



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*Passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday,
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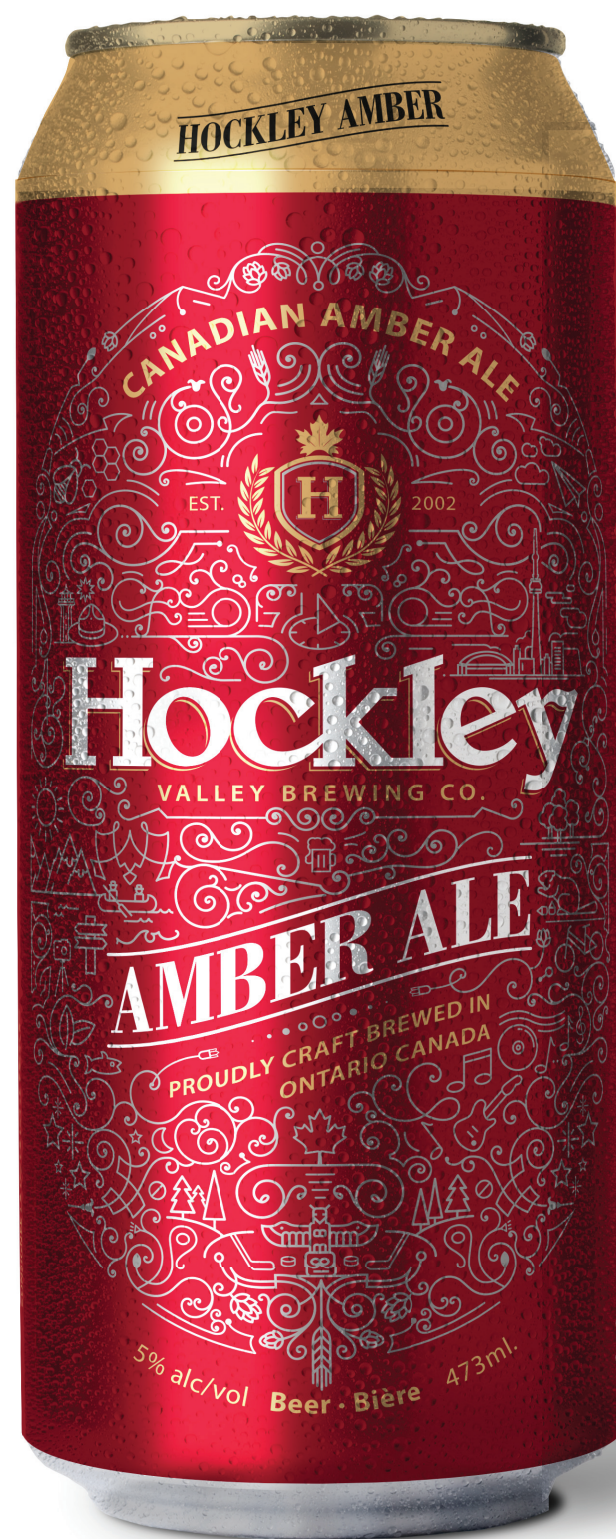
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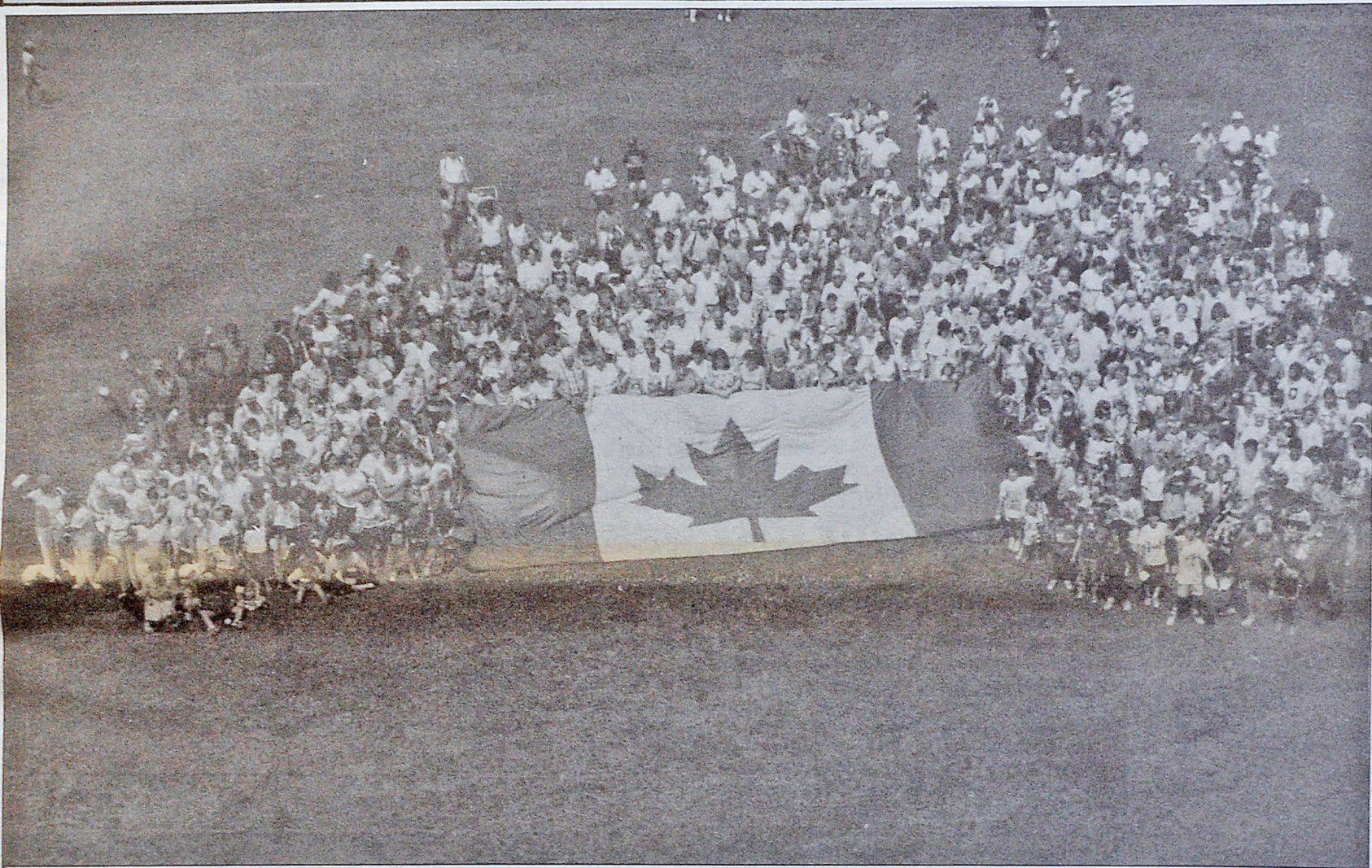
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Drainville opposes Sunday shopping law

by Jay Kerr-Wilson

Despite the wishes of local businesses and the provincial government, MPP Dennis Drainville says he will vote against changes to Sunday shopping legislation.

In an interview last week Drainville, who is a member of the New Democratic Party, said he does not agree with his party's decision to back-off on restricted Sunday shopping, a move which was prompted by public opinion.

"In the last three years polling figures have shown a complete turn around," he said. "There is much more of a demand for Sunday shopping and the government is trying to respond."

Drainville also said the government is trying to deal with the fact that legislation designed to restrict Sunday shopping has been difficult to enforce.

Last year the government introduced changes to the Retail Business Holidays Act which prohibited most stores from opening Sunday, except where municipalities pass by-laws permitting the operation of tourism-related businesses.

However Premier Bob Rae has been under increasing pressure from Ontario's business community to review the NDP's position and allow Sunday shopping.

Opening for business on Sunday was seen as a way to bolster the retail sector, which has suffered during the recession, and supporters claimed that Sunday shopping would decrease the number of Ontario residents who head south to shop in the United States.

Recently Rae announced that his government would reverse its earlier stand and would introduce changes to the legislature which would permit wide-open Sunday shopping, and that these changes would be put before a free vote by MPPs. Until the vote is taken, stores will be allowed to open on Sundays.

Free from party discipline, Drainville says he will vote against his government and against Sunday shopping.

"Quality of life means people are afforded the opportunity to have certain periods of time off work," he said. "I understand why the government is doing this, but I believe there has to be a stand taken."

Drainville supported the concept of a tourism exemption which would have allowed businesses in Haliburton County to remain open while other areas of the province would have to remain closed.

But even within areas operating under the tourism exemption, Drainville does not favour unrestricted business activity.

"In our riding there is no need for every shop to be open on Sunday," he said.

The date of the vote has not yet been announced and Drainville says the government may face some tough opposition to the bill, from its own party members.

"There is a quite a split in the party," he said. "This is not something which is going to pass without a problem."

Drainville believes the lobby for Sunday shopping has been back mostly by large chains and the Toronto media, which stands to gain from increased advertising revenue.

Faced with competitors opening their doors on Sundays, Drainville says small businesses will have tough time trying to stay closed.

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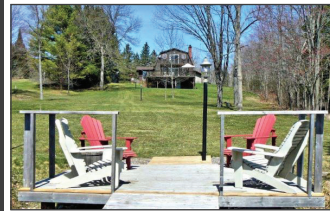
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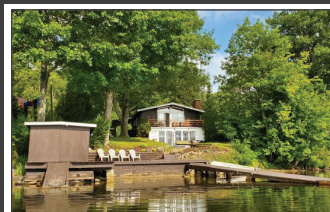
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